



North Dakota Career & Technical Education  
Wayde Sick, Director  
Mark Wagner, Assistant Director

February 2021

# Newsletter

## North Dakota Teacher Elected to ACTE Board

- Carla Hixon, Executive Director, NDACTE

**Ms. Holly Strand-Rysgaard Health Sciences Instructor at West Fargo Public Schools elected to ACTE Board of Directors.**

The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) announced the results of their recent election for several spots on its Board of Directors. Holly will serve a three-year term beginning July 2021 as Health Science Education Division Vice President. Holly said, "I am excited to begin my work in this new role and am honored to be elected." The election was open to ACTE's membership of roughly 25,000 educators, administrators, and other CTE professionals.

Congratulations to Holly and thank you for your willingness to serve. ACTE is committed to excellence in providing advocacy, public awareness, and access to resources, professional development, and leadership opportunities in CTE. Holly's hard work, dedication, and commitment to CTE is much appreciated.



## February Proclaimed CTE Month in North Dakota

Governor Burgum proclaimed February as CTE Month in North Dakota. Students, teachers, parents, and community members joined in to show support of CTE in North Dakota. See page 2 for more photos.



### STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA PROCLAMATION CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH FEBRUARY 2021

WHEREAS, more than 23,000 high school students are enrolled in career and technical education across North Dakota gaining the academic, technical and employability skills necessary for career readiness; and

WHEREAS, students who concentrate in career and technical education programs participate in authentic, meaningful experiences that improve the quality of their education as indicated by a 95 percent graduation rate from high school compared to 88 percent among all students statewide; and

WHEREAS, career and technical education provides career exploration opportunities through a statewide online system called RUnReadyND.gov, which is used in 95 percent of all schools, enabling students to make informed and beneficial decisions about their academic coursework; and

WHEREAS, leaders from business and industry statewide report increasing challenges related to the skills gap and connecting qualified professionals with available careers in critical and growing CTE-related fields, including health care, energy, advanced manufacturing, value-added agriculture and information technology; and

WHEREAS, career and technical education prepares students for these and other fulfilling careers by offering integrated programs of study that link secondary and post-secondary education; and

WHEREAS, the access and delivery of CTE programming enables local school programs across the state to provide programs through distance delivery, ensuring more students have more opportunities to address their education, interest and career goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim February 2021, CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH in the State of North Dakota.



*Doug Burgum*  
Doug Burgum  
GOVERNOR

*Alvin A. Joeger*  
Alvin A. Joeger  
SECRETARY OF STATE

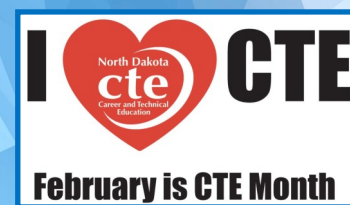
## Dates of Interest

**February, 2021**  
CTE Month

**June 14-16, 2021**

CTSO officer training; check with the CTSO advisor for specific dates and times for additional meetings. Some CTSO officers will meet prior to or after the general training.

CTSO Conferences are scheduled for this spring. Dates and times have been adjusted. Contact the State Advisor for your CTSO for the most updated information.



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## February 2021 Proclaimed CTE Month By Governor Burgum



# State Director's Column

-Wayde Sick, Director, North Dakota Career and Technical Education

## 67th Legislative Session Update

The first month of the North Dakota 67<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session is already behind us. A lot has occurred in the first month, and I will do my best to provide a detailed, yet brief update.

The deadline for the State's Senators to submit bills was January 25<sup>th</sup>, with the Representatives' deadline on January 18<sup>th</sup>. The Department is currently tracking 138 bills. The topics of the bills range from the Career and Technical Education budget, other agency budgets, bills that adjust the CTE and Academic Scholarship, and bills that impact employment and benefits of the state employees. Obviously, I will not cover all 138 bills, but will provide an update on those the Department feels are most important to our CTE Community



### CTE Funding Bills

SB2019 – The State Career and Technical Education budget. The Department had a hearing with Senate Appropriations on January 7<sup>th</sup>. No new action has been taken place on SB2019.

SB1380 – This bill would provide 4% of the Legacy Fund earnings to support Career and Technical Education programs.

SB2031 – This bill would adjust the Post-Secondary Funding Formula, which would increase the weight for CTE Courses.

### Scholarship Bills

HB1083 – This bill provides flexibility to students who may have not met State Scholarship requirements due to COVID. This has passed the House and now moves to the Senate.

HB1135 – Allows students to receive the State Scholarship if their school uses proficiency-based grading. This has passed the House and now moves to the Senate.

HB1430 – This bill allows students to receive both the CTE and Academic Scholarships, if requirements for both are met.

SB2136 – This bill allows students that complete the Educator Pathway to receive the CTE scholarship, allows Integrated Math II or III to replace the Algebra II requirement and allows the scholarship to be applied to private career schools. This bill has passed the Senate and now moves to the House.

SB2141 – This bill would allow the State to look for options to the ACT and WorkKeys assessments for scholarships and the state assessment.

### Graduation Requirements

HB1375 – A bill that would provide students a tuition incentive program for the completion of dual-credit courses.

HB1478 – This would give school boards the opportunity to create learn everywhere policies.

SB2196 – This bill would give the State Board for Public Instruction the authority to approve a Competency Based Framework for Graduation.

### Bonding Bills for additional and expanding CTE Centers

HB1132, HB1431, and SB2040. These bills provide funding for additional Career and Technical Education Centers, with various methods.

To review any of the bills, including video and submitted testimony, please visit the North Dakota Legislative Branch website, linked below.

[67th Legislative Assembly | North Dakota Legislative Branch \(nd.gov\)](https://legis.nd.gov/)

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Wayde Sick

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State Director

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North Dakota CTE

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## **North Dakota State Board for Career and Technical Education**

### Board Meetings

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

Monday, March 15, 2021

Monday, April 19, 2021

Monday, May 17, 2021

Monday June 21, 2021

### Board Members

Jeff Fastnacht, Chair, Mandan  
Sonia Meehl, Vice Chair, Oakes  
Kirsten Baesler, Bismarck  
Maria Effertz Hanson, Velva  
Dr. Mark Hagerott, Bismarck  
Dr. Steven Holen, Watford City  
Burdell Johnson, Tuttle  
Josh Johnson, Valley City  
Bryan Klipfel, Bismarck  
Wayde Sick, CTE Director

Contact Brenda Schuler for more information about upcoming board meetings.

Brenda Schuler: [bschuler@nd.gov](mailto:bschuler@nd.gov)  
Wayde Sick: [wasick@nd.gov](mailto:wasick@nd.gov)

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Check out our website at  
[www.cte.nd.gov](http://www.cte.nd.gov)

## CTE Scholarship Available!

- Michael Netzloff, Administrator Special Populations and Educational Equity

The Reuben T. Guenther Scholarship is given in memory of Reuben T. Guenther, a leader in Career and Technical Education (CTE) in both the state and nation. Mr. Guenther was first a CTE student, then a secondary CTE instructor, a local administrator supportive of CTE programs, and finally a member of the North Dakota Department of Career and Technical Education from 1968 to 1995. Mr. Guenther was appointed to the National Advisory Council on Career Education by President Reagan in 1982. At the time of his retirement in 1995, Mr. Guenther was the North Dakota State Director of Career and Technical Education. One scholarship in the amount of \$500 will be awarded in May, 2021, to be used for the 2021-2022 school year. The scholarship is not renewable.

Submit an online application containing the following items:

1. Complete online application form by following the link found here: <https://www.cognitoforms.com/NDCTE1/ReubenTGuentherScholarshipApplication2021>
2. Email three (3) letters of recommendation to [mnetzloff@nd.gov](mailto:mnetzloff@nd.gov). These documents are supporting the character and achievements of the applicant, with at least one recommendation from an instructor. The other letters may be from employers, advisors, or anyone other than family who has significant information about the applicant.
3. Email high school transcript to [mnetzloff@nd.gov](mailto:mnetzloff@nd.gov).

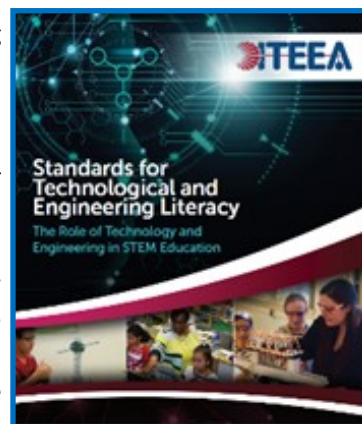
**Deadline for Applying - April 1, 2021**

## Changes with Technology and Engineering Education and TSA

- Submitted by Don Fischer, Supervisor, Technology and Engineering Education

There are several changes to be aware of in both Technology & Engineering Education and in TSA.

The new Standards for Technology and Engineering Education (STEL) have been published by the International Technology and Engineering Education Association (ITEEA) in July 2020. The standards were formatted by CTE and distributed for comment as the North Dakota Technology & Engineering Education State Standards. The comment period has expired, and the standards will be presented to the CTE Board for adoption at the February board meeting. If approved, they will become the new state standards for Technology & Engineering Education. Please look for these to be posted on the CTE website in late February.



The states' TSA chapter advisors have decided to have an in-person NDTSA State Conference. The conference will be held at the Baymont Inn and Suites, March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Attendance at the conference will be limited and social distancing recommendations will be adhered to. Masks will be required anytime social distancing is not possible. Some events have been altered slightly to avoid congregating of students. There will not be an in-person awards

session and no State Office Candidate Forum will be held. In addition, there will not be a chapter officer meeting held with the state officers. We hope to run a safe, effective, and meaningful conference for the students.

National TSA recently decided to hold a virtual national conference. A hybrid conference was to be held in Orlando, Florida at the end of June. Details about the dates of the virtual conference and the events that will be available to students will be available on the TSA website and social media outlets in a few weeks. This virtual conference comes on the heels of the conference being cancelled last year, all due to the COVID-19 pandemic. National TSA made this decision based on the unknown future of the COVID-19 virus and its varying presence in all 50 states. The hope is to have an in-person conference in 2022.

## CTE and CTSOs Continue to Provide Opportunities for Students

The North Dakota CTSOs have been providing a variety of opportunities for members during the past year. Although the COVID-19 Pandemic caused a disruption to many of the CTSO conferences scheduled from March to June in 2020, opportunities for students in Career and Technical Education have continued. The Covid-19 Updates and Smart Restart Guidelines for CTE are found on the CTE website at [www.cte.nd.gov/](http://www.cte.nd.gov/).

Members at the local level have been busy with community service projects, social activities, and preparing for competition, using local guidelines and restrictions. At

the state level, plans are underway for students to compete either in a virtual format or a face-to-face format this spring. Officers have worked on TEAMS or ZOOM to prepare goals for the year and to work through those goals and communicate with members in the state. Social distancing, wearing a mask, and following the guidelines are all in place.

Working at their own tables, officers have found it possible to work together, even at a distance, while wearing their mask and following guidelines.



## CTSO Leadership Perspective

Agricultural Education and FFA have had huge impacts on my life, and have given me both hard and soft skills. I have learned technical abilities relating to agriculture and valuable communication and personal skills that will be useful no matter what I do. Through these opportunities, I have become better prepared to enter the workforce as a productive citizen, and enter adulthood ready to thrive. I am so thankful that I had the chance to take agricultural education courses and join FFA, as I would not be where I am today had I not gotten involved!

*Caleb Hauck is a freshman at North Dakota State University in Fargo, where he is majoring in Agricultural Economics. He is a graduate of Ellendale High School, took classes at SE Region CTC in Oakes and was a member of the Oakes/Sargent Central/Ellendale FFA Chapter.*



## ACTE supports CTSOs and the Promotion of CTE

- Eric Ripley, Grand Forks Public Schools, ACTE Administrative Division Vice President-Elect

With February being national Career & Technical Education month, the opportunity is now to tell the amazing story of what CTE is doing to positively impact the lives of your students. With the impact of COVID at all levels of education, the ND Legislative Assembly currently meeting, and new Administration at the Federal Level, promoting the “Need for CTE” has never been more important!

CTE continues to lead the way in preparing our students to be “Choice Ready.” Through the exploration and development of career pathways combined with the real-world learning that exists within our CTE classrooms, students are gaining the skills (critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, and communication) that are essential to post-secondary success and the future workforce. CTE programs across the state are utilizing the “Career Ready Practices” rubrics in helping to provide valuable feedback for student growth.

Career Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) provide students with the ability to demonstrate their classroom skills, provide service to their community, and enhance their soft skills such as teamwork, responsibility, and leadership. With spring state conferences rapidly approaching, find opportunities to showcase your CTSOs, student projects, and chapter activities. One marketing strategy we have utilized in Grand Forks is the displaying of the state championship banners in the hallways leading to our CTE classrooms. Students are very proud to be recognized for their outstanding efforts and helps promote the CTSO to other students, parents, and community members within the school.

The implementation of the Strengthening CTE for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (Perkins V) State Plan continues to stress the importance of “high quality CTE” programs of study, preparing students through greater alignment between all stakeholder groups, including K-12, post-secondary, and industry. The inclusion of Work-Based Learning as a program quality indicator underscores the important role connecting our students to relevant, real-world learning experiences is in their career exploration and development. No curricular area should be as directly connected with industry than CTE, and I encourage you to utilize your advisory committees in an impactful way to benefit your programs.



Students are choosing to be in your classrooms because they can see the relevance in the material being delivered, the application of the knowledge in real-world scenarios, and the connection to their future careers. I encourage you to be a spokesperson for CTE and to share the positive attributes, data, and student success examples that are so evident. With the current ND Legislative Assembly being remote, the ease and ability to provide both written and virtual “live” testimony provides all an additional avenue to share your successes and passion for CTE. There is a great story to tell about CTE and the difference it is making within our schools, our students, and our communities!



## Assistant Director Corner

### North Dakota Career & Technical Education



Mark Wagner, Assistant Director,  
North Dakota Career and Technical  
Education

### Career and Technical Education . . .

#### Take Time To Tell Our Story

Career and Technical Education Month, or CTE Month, takes place each February to celebrate the value of CTE and the achievements and accomplishments of our CTE programs across the state and country. Career and Technical Education Month **recognizes** that CTE encompasses many different types of education, from classroom learning to hands on learning activities to work-based learning opportunities outside the classroom.

Career and Technical Education isn't just something that educators should be concerned with. Business and Industry stands to benefit from high-quality CTE programs as well, because such programs provide students with academic, technical, and employability skills that are needed in the workplace.

We encourage you to engage with business and industry leaders in your area during CTE Month. They stand to gain a great deal from strong CTE programs, as these programs provide students with the education and work-based learning they need to equip themselves with the skills necessary to enter the workforce. However, many businesses and industries are unaware of the specific benefits of career and technical education. By reaching out to them, you may create valuable partnerships that allow you to achieve your own goals.

During CTE Month, there are several great ways to tell your CTE story and engage your elected representatives, stakeholders, and business and industry leaders. Invite them and the media to a school or a site visit to feature your CTE programs.

I encourage that you utilize Social Media as a valuable tool to spread the news. When posting to social media, be personal, be positive, use facts, and interact with your audience when comments and questions arise. Don't forget to tag the North Dakota Department of Career and Technical Education on Facebook and Twitter @NorthDakotaCTE. We want to help spread your message. Also, don't forget to use the statewide hashtag of #ND\_CTE.

Now more than ever we need to tell and share our Career and Technical Education success stories.

### Mission of CTE

The mission of the State Board for Career and Technical Education is to work with others to provide all North Dakota citizens with the technical skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for successful performance in a globally competitive workplace.

### CTE Month on Social Media

Check out the CTE Website and social media during the month of February for more photos and videos of more participants from the state.

Website: [www.cte.nd.gov](http://www.cte.nd.gov)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/NorthDakotaCTE](http://www.facebook.com/NorthDakotaCTE)

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NorthDakotaCTE>



**February is CTE Month**

## Partnerships and Grants Provide Valuable Resources to Welding Classrooms in North Dakota

—submitted by Tracy Becker, Supervisor, Trades and Industry Education

Developing partnerships with industry partners is not only essential for keeping our CTE programs current with trends and recommendations from the field, it is also a powerful opportunity for partners to work with our programs and students to help them grow into the industry professionals of the future. Read below about some of those opportunities that have opened up for Welding/Manufacturing programs across ND.

### Michels Corporation Materials Donation

This fall, Utility Contractor MICHELS donated over \$40,000 in welding supplies to welding programs across the state. Recipient schools/Career & Technology Centers received nearly 20 kegs of rod that is utilized specifically with the pipeline. This donation will benefit students by giving them the opportunity to work hands-on with industry quality materials for many years.

### ND Welds Grant Curriculum Support

The North Dakota Welds (NDWelds) Program: **Advancing Welding Technician Skills for Students and Training for Educators** supports welding technical education courses in secondary schools across North Dakota by providing a welding curriculum that meets state standards. The grant projected is working with Goodheart-Wilcox to provide textbooks and online access to welding students.

This school year, the program is currently working with

12 schools to provide over 240 textbooks with online access, a value of nearly \$35,000, and are still reaching out to schools and hope to have another half dozen schools participate before the end of the school year.

Along with the curriculum upgrades, the program supports teacher professional development and welder certification testing options.

The NDWelds Program is supported by the National Science Foundation. For additional information on the NDWELDS Grant, visit the [NSF Awards Page](#).



### Gene Haas Foundation Grants (Secondary/Post-Secondary)

Each year, the Gene Haas Foundation accepts applications from both High School and Post-Secondary Manufacturing Programs to provide scholarships that can be utilized for student tuition, books, NIMS accounts/NIMS credentials and small personal tools. Post-Secondary applications are due June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year and Secondary applications are due December 1<sup>st</sup>.

For more information or to see if your program qualifies, visit [Gene Haas Foundation Grants](#).



Michels Corporation donated over \$40,000 in welding supplies to North Dakota schools – Wayde Sick (NDCTE, Bismarck), Randy Schafer (Flasher), Bryan Stastny (North Valley Career and Technology Center, Grafton), Luke Melmer (Bismarck), Clarence Hauck (Dickinson), and Stephan Keslier (Mandan).